

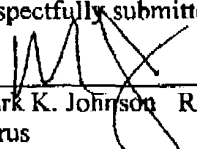
REMARKS

The Communication dated March 22, 2004 indicated that the Applicants' amendment filed December 16, 2003 was not fully responsive. As correctly pointed out by the Examiner, Applicants previously amended claim 1 to "inhibit nucleic acid expression" which would have required a new search.

In this response, Applicants amend claim 1 to recite "A process for delivering a polynucleotide into a cell of a mammal to inhibit protein expression". The term "protein expression" is a reversion to the terminology as recited in the originally filed claim 1. Applicants believe the amendment obviates the objection to the claim.

The Examiner's objections and rejections are now believed to be overcome by this response to the Office Action. In view of Applicants' amendment, it is submitted that claims 1 and 3-16 should be allowable.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent
by facsimile transmission to: Commissioner for
Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
on this date: March 25, 2004.



Kirk Ekena